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Rock Springs, WY 82901  
January 23, 2001

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U.S. Food & Drug Administration  
Dockets Management Branch  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, Maryland 20852

RE: Docket Number 98P-0151/CP1

Gentlemen:

I am writing to urge your granting of petition 98P-0151/CP1, which would prohibit the slaughter of downed animals. This cruel and potentially dangerous practice needs to be stopped immediately.

Animals that are too sick or injured even to stand should NOT be allowed to enter the human food chain.

In addition to posing an increased risk for bacterial contamination, there is evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy or "Mad Cow Disease".

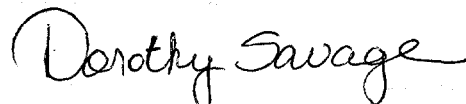
It is impossible to move downed animals humanely, and they are typically pushed with tractors or dragged with chains - inhumane processes which cause injuries ranging from bruises and abrasions to broken bones and torn ligaments.

Downed animals comprise a small percentage of animals slaughtered, and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship.

Industry experts have estimated that 90% of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling. Removing the market for downed animals will provide an incentive to industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Dorothy Savage

98P-0151

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